FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

21 FEBRUARY 1985

Lebanon

IDF Operations -- The IDF killed two "terrorists" and captured another during searches in the village of Al-Bazuriyah, Jerusalem radio reported. The Israelis interrogated local residents and demolished buildings in the village, the radio said, and IDF sources viewed the operation as part of a new "iron fist" policy against those suspected of attacks. The latest operations by the IDF and ASL followed Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's decision to adopt firmer measures including summary arrests and the demolition of houses of terrorists or suspects, according to *MA'ARIV*. The Israelis are also considering a policy of deportations and other punitive measures, the paper added.

French Observers — French observers evacuated their post in Al-Shuwayfat following the recent killing of a French officer, the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon reported.

Syria, Libya Visits — A Lebanese parliamentary delegation was received by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, while PSP leader Walid Junblatt held talks with Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in Libya, according to Damascus and Tripoli radios.

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres arrived in Bucharest on an official visit at the invitation of the Romanian president, AGERPRES announced. Earlier, following talks with Italian leaders, Peres told a press conference in Rome that he is "ready to go to Amman" and he reiterated Israel's invitation to King Husayn to come to Jerusalem and "announce whatever he has in his mind," according to AFP. Meanwhile, the GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE published Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's recent speech to the World Council of Synagogues in which he said there is "no chance whatsoever" that Israel will even consider relinquishing control over Judaea and Samaria, adding that the withdrawal from Lebanon cannot be taken as a precedent for a return to the borders of 1967 with Jordan. Shamir also expressed "profound regret" that Egypt has behaved as though the peace treaty was only an instrument to regain the Sinai, after which it has disengaged from any further efforts to advance the peace process. He accused the Egyptians of exaggerating the Taba question out of all proportion, and voiced concern over "hostile propaganda" in the Egyptian press.

Algeria

Foreign Minister Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi discussed the international situation and regional issues with Polish Foreign Minister Stefan Olszowski, who is on a 3-day visit to Algeria, Algiers radio reported.

Iran

Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Ansari-Kermani, in a speech broadcast by Tehran radio, said that Ayatollah Ruholiah Khomeyni is "perfectly healthy" and has cut back on his official activities because he wants officials to become "intellectually self-reliant" and creative in carrying out their duties.

Afghanistan

A security forces spokesman in Balkh Province announced that two leaders of the Jami'at Islami group have been killed in the last month as a result of successful operations, Kabul radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 035 *21 February 1985*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Crimes of Mujahidin in Balkh Province Reported ..... C 1
Briefs: Delegation Back From USSR ..... C 1

BANGLADESH

Ershad Discusses Elections, Campus Unrest ..... D 1
FRG Foreign Ministry Official Arrives for Visit ..... D 1

INDIA

Gandhi Seeks To Make Indian Ocean Zone of Peace ..... E 1
Spokesman on Jayewardene Charge of Arming Tamils ..... E 1
Tamil Nadu Chief Opposes Joint Patrolling Plan ..... E 1
Sri Lanka Commission Denies Death Threat Report ..... E 1
Bhopal Gas Leakage Disaster Ordinance Decreed ..... E 1
Ahmadabad Colleges Closed Following Violence ..... E 1

IRAN

Khomeyni Termed 'Perfectly Healthy,' 'Cheerful' ..... I 1
Musavi Discusses Public Participation in Economy ..... I 1
Musavi, Velayati Speak at Foreign Envoy Seminar ..... I 6
Foreign Policy Discussed ..... I 6
Musavi on Iran-Iraq War ..... I 6
Struggle Against Zionism Stressed ..... I 7
Sidon Compared to Tehran During Revolution ..... I 7
Deputy Foreign Minister Departs for Sweden ..... I 7
Montazeri Warns Against External Conspiracies ..... I 7
Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 2,010 ..... I 8
Communique Marks Anniversary of Majnun Operation ..... I 8
Commentary Discusses U.S. Pullout From UNESCO ..... I 8
Tudeh-Pakistan Communist Party Issue Statement *[National Voice of Iran]* ..... I 10

Crimes of Mujahidin in Balkh Province Reported

LD202023 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] According to a BAKHTAR correspondent, quoting a spokesman of the security forces in Balk Province, as a result of successful operations yesterday evening in this province, Muhammad Sadiq, son of Muhammad Omar, alis Sediq-e Toup, a leader of the criminal and murderous Jami'at group, was killed after being surrounded by the security forces. Several of his group were arrested and their weapons, ammunition, and a large amount of goods that had been stolen from the homes of our noble compatriots were confiscated. A quantity of antigovernment leaflets were also found, proving the group's direct links with foreign countries.

One month ago, another criminal ringleader of the Jami'at group, Qader, son of Muhammad Sadiq, alias Zabeh, who was eliminated in Mazar-e Sharif, left behind him a list of his crimes, his sabotage, and his murders.

Qader, alias Zadeh, was a pervert and a criminal who, like his accomplices, drank the salty water of imperialism and black reaction as all the citizens of Mazar-e Sharif and its surrounding area know.

Qader, alias Zadeh, who is mourned by imperialism disguised as Islam, killed more than nine ulema, clergy, and Koran recitalists, as well as several innocent citizens and tradesmen. The list of these dreadful crimes is contained in a file comprised of the names of 3,200 murdered people.

The crimes and sabotage of Qader, alias Zabeh, this servant of imperialism and reaction, included murder, planting bombs, setting fire to government and cultural installations, particularly religious centers. He also planted bombs in people's apartments and exploded mines in the southern sector of Rouza-e Shah-e Walayat Ma'ab, which resulted in the martyrdom of several women and children. He also planted a bomb in an apartment in Shadeyan Square which resulted in the death of a family of 10 and a group of travelers; planted a mine behind the grand mosque of Rouza-e Mubarak during Id al-Adha in 1982-83; and distributed deadly toys made in the United States, France, and Italy which resulted in the death of a large number of children in Mazar-e Sharif city. These toys, made of chocolate and other substances, were in fact mines.

On the orders of Qader, alias Zabeh, and his accomplices Muhammad Sadiq, alias Sadiq-e Toup, dozens of schools including the Shaykh Shahab, the Wazir Akhbar Khan, and the Ali Chopan schools and part of the Soltan Raziya lyceum were burned together with thousands of sacred books and the holy Koran.

Furthermore, on the instructions of this criminal, more than 3,000 volumes of the holy Koran and the holy interpretations of the Koran were destroyed by fire in the Balk provincial government's press.

The library at Mowlana Khasta was destroyed by fire. It contained more than 5,000 historic, religious, scientific, literary and other books and 260 volumes of the holy Koran and holy interpretations of the Koran. This was done on the instructions of the perverted murderer Qader, alias Zadeh.

In addition to these crimes, Qader, alias Zadeh, who was a sadist and thirsty for the blood of children, did not hesitate to commit any crime against the people's honor. The list of his crimes, murder and immoral crimes such as robbery, arson, bombing, and merciless killings will not go unpunished.

Qader, alias Zabeh, and his criminal accomplice Muhammad Sadiq, alias Sadiq-e Toup, faced the same fate as the other criminal, Kal-e Qodus, and justice has been done.

The citizens of Mazar-e Sharif, who are familiar with the unforgivable crimes of these savage criminals and their band of murderers, gathered — some of them still in mourning for the death of their loved ones — at a meeting in Mazar-e Sharif city to denounce the inhuman deeds against our noble compatriots on the orders of his American, Chinese, and Egyptian masters. They cursed him and his criminal accomplice with anger and repulsion.

According to a BAKHTAR correspondent, at the beginning of this meeting, the scretary of the Mazar-e Sharif city party committee spoke about the barbarous crimes of Qader-e Zabeh and his murderous group. The chief of the high council of ulema and clergy denounced the treacherous, inhuman, and anti-Islamic actions from the point of view of Islam and of Mohammedan law.

During this meeting several of our compatriots who had suffered from these barbarous deeds, denounced his wicked crimes and asked Almighty God to punish the counterrevolutionaries, who are the enemies of the prosperity and peace of our compatriots.

Briefs

Delegation Back From USSR — Kabul, February 19, BAKHTAR — A delegation of the Afghan civil aviation which had gone to the Soviet Union for talks on the expansion of Soviet-Afghan cooperation in the field of civil aviation returned home yesterday. Explaining the results of these talks, the head of the Afghan (?delegation said) that the Soviet Union pledged more aids and cooperation in various spheres of the civil aviation to the DRA. [Text] [*Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0424 GMT 20 Feb 85 LD*]

Ershad Discusses Elections, Campus Unrest

BK201622 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 1332 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Speech by President Hussain Mohammad Ershad to nation on 20 February; place not given — live or recorded]

[Excerpts] Dear countrymen, peace be upon you.

I am here before you to say a few words at an important juncture in the nation's history on the eve of the immortal 21 February, paying my deep respect to the sacred memory of the brave martyrs of the great language movement. The entire nation, with heartfelt gratitude and befitting solemnity, is going to observe the immortal 21 February.

Dear countrymen, you know that the parliamentary election has been fixed again on next 6 April. Meanwhile, in accordance with my 15 December announcement, posts and offices of district martial law administrators and subzonal martial law administrators have been withdrawn by 31 December and that of zonal martial law administrators by 31 January.

I have said before and categorically reaffirm today that I and my government will maintain complete neutrality. What I want is full implementation of my pledges to the nation. I have so far fulfilled all my promises to the nation one by one. The pledge to restore democracy, God willing, will be fulfilled. In this regard, keeping in view the opinion of some political parties, we have taken some more steps in addition to my 15 December announcement. Although, under the suspended Constitution, a presidential election should have been held earlier, we have shown respect for the political parties and not only announced the parliamentary election first, we have also decided to announce the schedule for presidential elections following the first session of parliament. In addition to this, the sentences of some of the political party leaders who have been convicted and sentenced with long-term prison terms for various nonpolitical corrupt activities have been reduced on humanitarian grounds and they have been released. Moreover, on the basis of the dialogue with political parties, sentences of many other political leaders and workers have been reduced and suspended. So it is evident today that we have done everything possible for the peaceful end to martial law rule and transition to democracy.

The entire nation is ready for the election. I have been impressed and inspired by your spontaneous enthusiasm about the election wherever I visited throughout the country. I am fully confident that the nation wants to use its democratic right through the vote. It is not proper for anyone to deprive the people of this right any longer. Most of the political parties also want the election on next 6 April. So, I and my government hope that all political parties will nominate their candidates according to the Election Commission's schedule and move forward to achieve the objective of transition to democracy. I firmly believe that our economic progress or the restoration of democratic process cannot be achieved fully without the greater unity and understanding of the entire nation.

Dear countrymen, in the context of national politics and elections, I would like to raise one more issue to you. I request all concerned to take this issue seriously. It is about the prevailing uneasy situation on the educational campuses. The postcolonial background has completely changed in the postindependence era. It is now time for development of the country and the nation. It is time for the struggle for economic emancipation. What is needed to participate in this struggle is preparation and acquisition of expertise, good education, and knowledge. The student community in a developing country like ours has always played a commendable role in efforts toward national development. The nation remembers the leading role of students with gratitude and will do so in the future. So, the prevailing uneasy situation on educational campuses has become a matter of concern for the entire nation. We must find a solution to it. We cannot let the bright future of our prospective youths be destroyed. In this context, I would like to say that an appropriate education policy for the country will be determined by the elected government alone. In this respect, I expect everyone's cooperation irrespective of differences of parties and views. Let us ensure a happy and bright future for our children.

In conclusion, I am repeating my clarion call to all political parties and leaders. Come, let us end all misunderstandings, remove all mistrust, and march in unity toward our desired goal of restoration of democracy. The most merciful Allah will certainly help us. May God take you under His custody.

Long live Bangladesh.

FRG Foreign Ministry Official Arrives for Visit

BK170459 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 17 Feb 85

[Text] Ambassador (Frank Scheil), head of Asia division in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, arrived in Dhaka yesterday. He will hand over a message from FRG foreign minister, Mr Genscher, to the advisor of foreign affairs, Mr Humayun Rashid Chowdhury, today. Ambassador (Scheil) will also call on principal finance secretary to the advisor of finance, Mr M. Syeduz Zaman.

Gandhi Seeks To Make Indian Ocean Zone of Peace

BK201155 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that sustained efforts should be made to transform the Indian Ocean into an area of peace, stability, and cooperation to insulate it from the interferences of bloc politics.

In a message to the 4-day international seminar on the Indian Ocean which began in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi pointed out that growing militarization of the Indian Ocean had caused global tension and endangered the security of the littoral states diverting them from their own problems of economic development and social uplift.

He said strategic power play has recently made the Indian Ocean an arena for big power confrontation and outside pressures are growing.

The nonaligned countries have consistently called for the implementation of the 1971 UN Declaration by making the Indian Ocean a zone of peace.

Over 100 experts from various countries, including the United States, the Soviet Union, Denmark, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, and Japan are participating in the seminar organized by the Department of Ocean Development.

Spokesman on Jayewardene Charge of Arming Tamils

BK211435 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] New Delhi (?heid) with regret that the Sri Lanka president, Mr Jayewardene, should again have made the same charges against this country which the Government of India has repeatedly refuted.

A spokesman of the External Affairs Ministry made this statement today when a reporter asked him for his comments on the charges made by President Jayewardene yesterday in his address to the Sri Lanka parliament in Colombo accusing India of arming and training Tamil militants.

Replying to questions about the Sri Lanka proposal for joint patrolling of Palk Strait, the spokesman said this has to be considered in the totality of the prevailing situation in Sri Lanka. The matter will be dealt with through diplomatic channel.

Meanwhile, the foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, today called in the Sri Lanka high commissioner in New Delhi, Mr Tilokaratne, for an exchange of views on the latest developments.

Tamil Nadu Chief Opposes Joint Patrolling Plan

BK211314 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr M.G. Ramachandran, has opposed the idea of joint patrolling by Indian and Sri Lankan Navies of the seas off the Rameswaram coast. The Sri Lankan proposal for joint patrolling was made by that country's foreign minister, Mr Hameed. Mr Ramachandran felt the suggestion for joint patrolling would only pave the way for India being blamed for Sri Lanka's atrocities.

The Tamil Nadu chief minister's views were conveyed to Mr G. Parthasarathy, chairman, Policy Planning Committee of the External Affairs Ministry, by the state electricity minister, Mr S. Ramachandran.

Sri Lanka Commission Denies Death Threat Report

BK201609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] According to a PTI report, more than 100 Sri Lanka Tamil refugees landed in Rameswaram yesterday. This is the largest number to arrive on a single day since the refugee influx began on the 5th of this month. Meanwhile, the Sri Lanka High Commission in New Delhi has denied that the Tamils in the northern and eastern provinces have been asked by security forces to leave their dwellings by 15 March. A press release issued today says the report that the security forces threatened the Tamils with certain death if they fail to leave Sri Lanka is false.

Bhopal Gas Leakage Disaster Ordinance Decreed

BK201614 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] The government today promulgated the Bhopal gas leakage disaster ordinance. This step has been taken to ensure speedy disposal of claims of the victims of the gas leakage tragedy.

Ahmadabad Colleges Closed Following Violence

BK210304 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] All colleges and postgraduate departments of Gujarat University in Ahmadabad have been closed for an indefinite period, following a violent turn of the antireservation agitation [agitation against reservation of seats] of the college students in the city. All secondary and higher secondary schools in Ahmadabad have also been closed till the 15th of March as a precautionary measure.

Khomeyni Termed 'Perfectly Healthy,' 'Cheerful'

LD201533 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Speech by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad 'Ali Ansari-Kermani:"The Safeguarding of the Spiritual Gains of the Islamic revolution of Iran" — live or recorded, date and place not given]

[Excerpt] From the very first day of the revolution, the imam's policy has been to delegate affairs to the officials. The officials of our country, our Guardians Council, the president, the Guards Corps, the Armed Forces, are not without any say or without any initiative in the affairs of the country. The imam has given them the scope to act. Time and again in connection with several issues the Imam has said that these affairs do not concern him, and that the people themselves should go and solve them. One of the reasons why the Imam has fewer meetings recently, why he has fewer appointments, why he makes fewer speeches, may be the fact that he wishes our officials, those who are in charge of running the affairs of this country, to become intellectually self-reliant and creative so that in the face of any issue they do not feel that they cannot make any decision, or that their hands are tied.

Let the counterrevolutionaries say what they like. Let them say that the imam is ill. Thanks to God, the Imam is perfectly healthy, perfectly happy and is engaged in study and recreation. Each day he spends 2 or 3 hours walking. He spends a lot of time studying or meditating. He is healthier and more cheerful than anybody else, thanks be to God, and he is shining on the face of the politics of this country. However, his policy is that the officials should learn that the country needs projects, needs programs; and the officials should discover what their duties are and implement them. They should put the affairs of the country right.

Musavi Discusses Public Participation in Economy

LD191843 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0915 GMT 19 Feb 85

[Speech by Iranian Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi on 18 February — place not specified; recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Greetings to the imam of the ummah and to you, the martyr-nurturing Iranian ummah. A few months ago, I reported to you dear people on the country's economic and political situations. At the time I said I would occasionally report to you on the country's situation and the government's accomplishments. However, certain difficulties and engagements prevented me from keeping my promise, preventing me from speaking to you.

Recent remarks by his eminence the imam and his extremely important utterances, require me to report to you now on a certain aspect of the government's activities. The imam's message contained a great number of issues; it was a comprehensive message. It was one of those exceptional messages, a message that can always serve as a directive to all those serving in the Islamic Republic system. [Words indistinct] It also applies to anyone in any part of the country who is entrusted with some responsibility. However, in one part of his highly important messages there was a portion addressed to the executive — to the government. It was an order to the government to report on the activity of the private sector and the measures taken by the government in this respect.

Obviously, we are talking here about the various reports already given. Naturally, the government, in this kind of report, should demonstrate its stand and make a move. The government should make it clear about whether it is following the imam or not. Whether it believes in people's participation in the affairs of the country or not. Whether it has already taken steps along this path or not. And if the government follows the imam's line, it should make it clear that the government is following through on the imam's message in regard to enabling the people to participate in economic matters. This is precisely what I intend to discuss tonight.

Needless to say, economic issues are all interrelated. It is quite possible that if we fail to explain the overall economic situation under which we live, then certain parts of our activities may fail to manifest their prominence, thus making it difficult for us to explain the reasons for our work. I should mention that to a great extent these conditions are known to you. However, this does not mean that I am not going to refer to the matter; but this is simply an introduction. I believe that the overall activities of the government within this context are generally in line with other activities; this is something which you dear people should bear in mind.

What I would like to mention at this stage of my speech — something often repeated — is that we are subjected to various plots hatched by the superpowers.

We all know that our system is exceptional. It is a system with principles, policies, beliefs, and a particular ideology and therefore it is opposed by other powers. We have endangered many governments and powers. This is one of the peculiarities of our revolution which has given rise to hostility from the major powers. If they were to surrender their hostility, we would be surprised. They have opened up many battlefronts against us and one of them could be the economic front. We do not intend to talk about this issue tonight. But I would like to mention the propaganda front, which would also partly cover the economic activities of the Islamic Republic.

In general we feel that, in connection with the country's economic situation, there are some mysterious moves and propaganda which, I believe, are connected with the foreign propaganda against us from across our borders. I believe that naturally such propaganda should be expected, because if the Islamic Republic system were to fail to stand on its feet economically, it would collapse. I remember that in the year 1360 [21 March 1981 to 20 March 1982], the arrogant powers and their affiliated mass media were as hopeful about movements of the minigroups, the hypocrites, and counterrevolution in Kordestan and western Azarbayjan, as about the economic collapse of the country. They telexed countless reports all over the world. One of the propaganda tools in the hands of the major powers and their mass media, be it their printed materials in European languages or their publications and counterrevolutionary radio stations in

Persian, is the economic situation of our country. Here, I would like to make a brief reference to some of this propaganda in order to show you how baseless it is.

Despite the war and the conspiracies, we have enjoyed a healthy economy. No one has helped us in the world today, neither the United States, nor the USSR, nor other powers. This is something that our nation and our system should be proud of. The serving government is also proud of the fact that we have never relied on the outside world for even one dollar, one rial, or one cent. We have built our economy with our own hands; and not under normal conditions, rather under revolutionary circumstances and the chaos that followed the early days of the revolution because of lack of management, the war, and other conspiracies. But I am not going to discuss this issue in detail either. I am only going to mention one of the criteria that is used all over the world and then I will go back to the main report. The issue is the problem of inflation in our country.

You have often heard about the high prices. You hear a lot about inflation. Foreign radios devote plenty of time to this issue. It is also much discussed inside the country, either intentionally or unintentionally. Of course, I am not going to deny that there is some inflation in our country. Yes, we have inflation. We do not want to deny this fact. But compared with other countries of the world and various nationalities, we can say whether we are enjoying a better situation or not.

According to figures published by the Central Bank, the rate of inflation in the month of Azar [22 Nov-21 Dec 1984] was 11.9 percent. This is the inflation rate. So, if we consider that 4 years ago the rate of inflation was, say, 30 percent, it has now dropped to 11.9 percent. What this means is that the rate of increase in the price of goods has reached 11.9 percent. I repeat this; it does not mean that prices of goods are no longer rising, but it means the rate, the pace, has been fixed at 11.9 percent. This is a highly important index.

Difficulties are emerging at a time when we are subjected to threats applied by the superpowers in the Persian Gulf, the Indian Ocean, and many other places. Actually, NATO ships and warships are always present very close to the Strait of Hormuz; there is also the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. However, despite all these phenomena, we have achieved a rate of growth.

Now let us see whether the same rate of growth applies to other countries. Considering that the inflation rate is 11.9 percent in our country, let us now look at some other countries. During this same period, what has been the situation in the neighboring countries as well as other countries that are not facing and experiencing these plots and the war, and which, meanwhile, are receiving assistance from other countries, receiving loans, credits and financial aid plus political and propaganda support? One would think that in these countries the inflation rate should be zero or even negative. Now, is that the case?

Our own rate of growth is one which, considering our circumstances, is exceptional and, I believe, very good. When we landed in Spain to refuel the plane, we had a conversation with one of their officials. He was proud of his government's achievements in bringing inflation down to 9 percent from 13 percent. Spain is an industrial country with exports and about 40 million tourists — which are the main suppliers of Spain's foreign exchange earnings. That was their inflation figure and he was proud of it. We have gained this figure in war conditions, where particular factors are affecting our economy.

Well, how did we achieve this figure? By hard work, striving, mortification, and following those policies that we have often discussed. We might have made some mistakes here and there in implementing these policies. There have been some instances which have been justly criticized by the people and other deprived masses. But the important point is this: If we are enjoying price controls, then we should thank the policies in general.

Prices have been affected by the government's general policies and not by a single policy, that is, the state general monetary and financial policies, righteous stands of the government, regular watch and intervention by the government, price checking, government imports and distribution, encouragement of the private sector, allocation of means of production, investment, distribution, and other such examples. Together, these policies have brought prices down to the level that we can see. This is not an economic mutation. It will not be possible to go to bed and rise the next morning to see that prices have come under control and are not rising rapidly.

I believe this is one of the government's big achievements and it would have not been possible without the help of you, the dear people, you the alert and aware people, and the executive organs and the dear Majlis. We must be fair and compare our country and its particular situation with other countries. High prices and poverty is very common in European countries, many Third World countries, and countries under domination of the major powers.

I would like to mention another index and give some figures and statistics in order to show the government's general policy trend. When the question of the private sector and its role in various affairs was the subject of the day, I made a speech. I said then that the private sector shared 20 percent of the imports. I also gave some statistics in this connection. The figure of 20 percent that I mentioned is variable. Sometimes we have more foreign exchange at our disposal and other times we have less. We are going through particular war conditions and sometimes we have to adopt certain policies so that we can balance our books, despite the threats against us and our oil imports in the Persian Gulf. We have to balance our foreign exchange earnings and expenses so that we will not have to depend on foreign assistance.

This in itself goes rather a long way to influence the extent of the participation of the private sector as well as other sectors in the issue of imports. At this stage I do not wish to go into any detail since we have already discussed the matter. As for the government's general and financial policies, these too have already been debated. What I would like to raise here is this: The whole combination of policies should eventually have left their marks somewhere. Based on specific statistics, we should offer certain examples to demonstrate in which direction the government has moved in the context of its collective policies.

If the collection of statistics offered by us demonstrates that the people have shown an interest in investments, mainly in the production sector or other fields; if it shows that the people have, with encouragement, become involved in economic activities, and, in fact, have taken control of the future of the economy, then this shows that the government's general direction has been toward making more use of private sector capital as well as improving the private sector's strength, of course, alongside other sectors controlled by the government.

I wish to emphasize here that in the remarks one sometimes hears there are questions about whether we give priority to the public sector over the private sector; whether the government intends to create an extensive state-owned system; whether it wishes to bring about an expanding government-controlled system and take over the control of all affairs.

I recently obtained some statistics that are truly self-explanatory — unless one believes that there are certain individuals who entertain obstinacy, in which case there is nothing one can do. Those whose hearts are clouded, whose ears are shut, persist in the argument that this is a government that does not wish to hand over works to the people, a government that does not wish to take advantage of people's participation. On the other hand, it is possible that such individuals oppose the Islamic Republic government, be it the present government or any other government. In the case of such individuals, any accomplishments, any statistics presented to them, are rejected. They will contradict them, stating that such statistics are incorrect. In a nutshell, they believe nothing, while trying to misrepresent issues to the people. I wish to have nothing to do with these individuals; I have nothing to do with them and they are undoubtedly a minority. I am addressing the general public with regard to the duty that the imam has entrusted to the government. In this respect we are going to give you, dear people, a general report.

One of the most important sources of collecting statistics, which, undoubtedly, is equipped with a relatively complex system, is the Central Bank. One of the (?lists) that I recently received from them concerns the registered investments in the year 1362 [March 1983-March 1984]. This means that anyone who sets up a company — obviously, you people are aware of the case [sentence as heard]. The thing is that some individuals get together and create a company for a commercial, productive, or other specific purpose. These companies are of two types. Some are registered and some are not. This means that some companies are set up that are not registered in official records, nor is their capital registered. There is a very large number of these companies. We are not relying on them at all.

What I would like to talk about is in connection with the statistics offered by the Central Bank. In this connection, the capital of the registered companies for the year 1362 [21 March 1983 to 20 March 1984] was 60,468 billion rials. This is the total capital of the registered companies. Let us make it a round figure and say 60 billion rials. Well, immediately the issue is raised and one might ask: It is true that these companies have been registered, but how can we say whether these are private or state-owned companies? What percentage of them are private? This is a very important point and this is the main question put to us.

It is said that the government might have registered several companies, but it might own the greatest part of the capital investment. If this was true, then the criticism that the government has gone toward nationalization in practice and has not shared matters with the people, is true. But, the important point which brings great delight and fully proves the government's healthy attitudes, is the fact that only 7 billion rials out of the 60 billion belongs to the government sector. We hope that this figure will be an eloquent example for those who did not know the fact before and who were discussing the issue. We want them to pursue the fact and see the evidence and documents for themselves and then we hope that they will stop their propaganda.

I am certain that our nation is aware of the government's policies. Seven billion out of 60 billion, that is about one-ninth of the investment, meaning for every rial of the government's share in setting up a company, the private sector has invested 9 rials and has registered the company.

At this point I would like to add that if we were to take into account the unregistered private companies, then the share of the state sector would not be comparable with that of the private sector. This is a very clear point. I would like to emphaize the figure 1 out of 9.

Well, that was one of the issues, and it showed the direction of trends. This is one of the most eloquent documents that we could present to you, the people. Of course, I would like to add another point here in order to show the government's just policies, and that is: Total investment in the year 1362 is high and the total number of registered companies shows an increase of 43.8 percent compared with the year 1361. That is, more companies have been set up and have been officially registered and started their activities. This also shows the healthy aspect of the government's policies and your trust in the government. You, the people, trusted the government for investment; you trusted the system and you showed your confidence and trust for the policy lines chosen by the government. This is also an eloquent figure.

In order to be able to present a general picture, I thought of asking the Central Bank to send me the names of all the companies. This document has dozens of pages and I have brought part of it here with me. This shows the diversity of the companies. There are hundreds of branches and thousands of companies. These companies have begun productive work in hundreds of branches. I would like to read some of them to you, although it takes time — your time, dear people. But for once I have to change this climate of opinion that is created against the government about allowing the people to participate in affairs. On every page there are at least 40 companies and I'll go through some of them at random to show the variety: Creation of productive industrial units manufacturing various kinds of molds, fish farming and fish breeding, metal smelting mills, production of pasteurized milk, manufacturing of tiles and ceramics, textiles and weaving, establishment of a factory for manufacturing cosmetics, manufacturing of chains for various vehicles, agricultural and livestock rearing companies, construction of cold storage facilities in Taleqan, manufacturing of formaldehyde, manufacturing of asphalt and sand for road construction, manufacturing of cloth and fabrics and various materials for clothing, etc. There are so many names and every page contains the names

of different companies, their capital investment and their output. The diversity of these companies shows the eagerness of various circles for investment. The number of names is long and diverse and if our press and newspapers are interested and for research purposes, the Central Bank will place the names at their disposal.

I would like to raise some very useful points about these companies. This is also an index and shows another proof. In general, during the year 1362, the private sector's application for industrial loans from the Industrial and Mining Bank showed an increase of 30 percent compared with the year before. That shows the extent of people's eagerness for investment.

There is a sentence here on one of the pages. Let me read the sentence. It says: The investment figure, on the basis of licenses issued for establishing new units or expanding existing units, shows an increase of 98 percent compared with the figure for the year 1361. Well, when you see that prices have come down, then you should ask why. What is the reason for lower prices? There is no other reason but the healthy policies chosen by the government in the fields of finance and monetarism. The people's participation in productive units has also helped. Without this growth, we would face continuous price rises.

In the textile and clothing sector there has been a growth of 141 percent compared with the year before. In the chemical and rubber industries, there has been a growth of 53.2 percent. These are the growth figures for the year 1362. This year, that is the year 1363 [ending 20 March 1985], these two figures have grown by 21.7 percent and 9.8 percent respectively. This is only the figure for the past 6 months compared with a similar period last year. This trend, this growth, this welcome, and this participation of the private sector will continue in the year 1364.

I would like to mention another index. You, the people are certainly aware of this, but I say it again to make you happy. It is also said in order to bring despondency to the enemies of the revolution and perhaps to inform those brothers and sisters who have not had the chance of studying these papers. In the year 1361, the private sector invested a total sum of 430 billion rials in housing. This figure increased to 830 billion rials in the year 1362. That is, the figure nearly doubled. What does this mean? It means the people are in charge of housing now. The people are interested and the government is serving them. The government has opened the way for them. What about the number of units built? In the year 1361, the private sector built 104,725 units. In the year 1362, 205,833 units were built; this is twice the figure given for the year 1361. We are certain that through the present policies of the Ministry of Housing, these figures will expand and improve in the future.

I will cite another figure about the housing issue and then continue to another subject. During the first 4 months of the year 1363, the number of planning permits for housing construction increased by 21.1 percent. The government is promoting this policy. We shall discuss the housing issue in greater detail later. We hope that the housing minister will also explain some points in this connection. He has already informed the people to some extent. The people know about the new housing construction companies, the relatively large investment that can be employed in this field and the commencement of the work. The work has already started and it shows the government's intention to allow the people to take part in the housing issue. We believe that we will not be able to solve the problem of housing without the people's participation. The government should provide more facilities and prepare its funding system. Design and building tasks should be left to the people themselves.

Now we return to the government's new policies. After the gracious remarks of his holiness, the imam, we have continued our policies with stronger resolve. As I said before, our discussion tonight is not going to be about housing. Rather, I am going to discuss two or three very important issues. One of the most important issues concerns the sale of factories. If you remember, after the first instruction of the imam to allow the people and the private sector to participate in economic activities, we made certain promises. We asked various departments and units to think of solutions. The Prime Ministry itself also began studying the issue and worked on it. As a result, there was some movement in various departments. It will not be possible to discuss them all today. We only raise one or two issues that have determining roles and clearly show the government's policies. These can assure the people and muzzle the snout of our ill-wishers and enemies.

Generally, after discussions with my brothers, we began debating the sale of confiscated factories and decided that the matter should be taken seriously. Factories that have been confiscated are those taken from Taghutis [supporters of the former regime and those who worked for the shah's regime]. At the beginning of the revolution, the managers of these factories fled the country and the factories became bankrupt. The government worked very hard on this and brought these factories to a profit-making stage. The government expanded these units and transformed them into thriving factories and did not allow economic paralysis to set in. That is why it would be desirable if, at this juncture, the government could move in this direction. That is, while in connection with its activities within the framework of Article 44 of the Constitution, the government has most influence on the situation, it should sell the shares in these factories to the workers and employees of these factories in the first instance and then, under certain conditions, to the public in order to be able to invest in other fields and to use the money to serve the people and to help the growth and prosperity of the country. In this connection, serious steps were taken which, God willing, at some stage the minister of industries will elaborate on. I would like to mention just a few of these steps to inform the dear listeners.

First of all, after hours of deliberation, about 2 weeks ago the first official legislation in this connection was passed by the Supreme Council of Industries. This was published in the newspapers. Before this, the newspapers published the decision of the Ministry of Industries on this issue.

In our discussions at the Supreme Industrial Council, in the presence of our brothers in the Cabinet, it was decided that those shares which definitely belong to the government, namely shares in industries mentioned in Clause B [as heard] in the nationalized industries, should be sold to the people and the income from the sale of these shares should be gradually invested in industries where the private sector does not favor investment such as big and comprehensive units that can be controlled by the government. That is to say, the money made through the sale of shares

in those factories should be used to improve the condition of other industries and to expand them. On one hand the people are to be allowed to take part in investing in industries, and on the other we should have enough funds available to invest and expand in areas vital to our nation and our revolution.

Well, making decisions in this respect was very sensitive but we succeeded and the results were officially announced.

It is interesting to mention that on 16/11/61 [31 January 1983] I received a letter. Before studying the letter, I was told about it by my honorable brother Hashemi-Rafsanjani on the phone. He told me that proposals had been put forward in the letter and he asked me to take note of them. I received the letter the same afternoon and I was informed that a copy had been sent to the honorable minister of industries. The letter was written by the workers of Varamin sugar refinery plant. The plan is well-known and the letter was sent to us by the Islamic Association of the Varamin sugar refinery plant.

I would like to read the final part of this letter which includes the proposals put forward for you dear people, to show you the spirit of the country's workers and employees, to demonstrate to you that the government's direction is the same as that of the workers and they both coincide with the directives and will of his excellency the imam.

The letter also says: We would like to put forward two proposals on behalf of the workers:

1. Considering that all the damage and loss incurred in the past years resulted from the wrong policies of the former regime, today the factory has passed the break-even point and is now making a profit. We, the workers, would be very proud to work under the control of the serving government. That is to say they are prepared to continue their efforts and maintain their profit levels.

2. If the proposal made above is not approved and ultimately a decision is made to transfer the factory to the private sector, shares in the factory should be sold to the employees.

The points made above are strictly in observance of our duty and the employees do not, God forbid, wish to interfere in the policy making of our dear brothers. May God grant success to all those serving dear Islam under the leadership of our imam.

We have said repeatedly, referring to the directives of the imam and the spirit of his excellency's sayings and speeches in defending the deprived and oppressed in society, that we would never stop the activities of legal investment. Once all legal and religious dues are paid, such capital can be invested. But, the path and the policy of the government is not one of supporting large private capital. The government will support small capital, the sector comprising the deprived and the oppressed, the sector made up of guildsmen coming from the same oppressed, deprived masses that have suffered hardship for Islam. We cannot drive the policies of the serving government along the direction that would benefit the Taghutis, the oppressive forces, the wealth gatherers, and their like. We can only serve those whom serving would result in our economy flourishing. This is one point.

The second point I would like to raise, the matter I would like to discuss here to clarify the point absolutely — although the example I cited should have been enough I thought I would give you a few more examples to clarify points and to clearly show the direction of the government to be the same as the direction stressed by the imam of the ummah — is the bureau in charge of implementing Article 82 of the Constitution at the Prime Ministry. Here, I would like to explain a point for you. A number of properties, factories, investments made by those who plundered the wealth of the people, corrupt elements who cheated people, have been or are being confiscated and put at the disposal of the government. This is quite apart from those put at the disposal of the Foundation for the Oppressed. All these properties are controlled by the bureau in charge of implementing Article 82, an economic bureau with a central office at the Prime Ministry which does not have any connections with other ministries.

Hundreds of cars and houses are put at the disposal of this office. In the reports I have here alone about 497 houses of various dimensions, 157 commercial lots and 506 shops are listed — this is only in Tehran. Considerable numbers of similar properties in the provinces are controlled by this office as well. Included in the properties controlled by the bureau is a large number of companies, generally manufacturing companies and factories which might be as many as 150.

From the very beginning we said that these units should be put at the disposal of the people. Fortunately, the bureau is quite publicly and overtly working in this direction. If you look in the newspapers for the month of Azar [22 Nov - 22 Dec] which I have seen for myself, there are many advertisements by the bureau offering these properties to the people. I would like to take this opportunity to advertise for the bureau because the income from these sales will be spent on village roads, the general budget of the country, and on the oppressed people. I invite people to join together in large numbers and buy these properties. I would like to announce that if the policies of the government were anything but putting these factories at the disposal of the people and inviting people to participate, it would not have offered them to the public.

I would have liked to have read you a report given to me by the Ministry of Industries which is entitled: A Brief Report Reviewing the Allocation of Government Shares in Industry. But we do not have the time now — maybe some other time. I would just like to read you a sentence from it that shows to what extent the government has moved in the same direction as the imam's directives and the spirit of the imam's sayings. One of the objectives kept in mind in connection with the allocation of shares to the employees of nationalized industries is as follows:

Social justice will be ensured by allocating shares on the condition that it would not result in the concentration and perpetuation of capital in the hands of certain persons or groups. That is to say, we do not wish to act in such a way that, God forbid, might prove to be beneficial to the holders of large capital and detrimental to the interests of the deprived. That is why, in the principles put forward on the basis of this objective, steps have been taken to ensure that factories are offered in the first instance to the workers and then to the public. So that if, for instance, we offer

a factory worth a 100 million toman for sale, one person would not be able to buy 50 million tomans' worth of its shares. The shares have ceilings and percentages that ensure this principle.

We have created extensive facilities for exports. We have arranged for the Central Bank to control foreign currency issues so that exports could be made as easily as possible and so the foreign currency earned by exporters could be easily used for imports and so forth.

I have spoken about housing. Concerning distribution, you have all seen that we have lifted the restrictions on textiles; but not only on the purchase and distribution of textiles. I declare here and now that the purchase of textiles from plants by the private sector is allowed, with the knowledge and under the supervision of the Ministry of Commerce, under conditions that will be announced by the Commerce Ministry.

Peace and God's mercy be upon you.

Musavi, Velayati Speak at Foreign Envoy Seminar

Foreign Policy Discussed

LD201828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Iranian ambassadors and charges d'affaire in Arabic and African countries who have come to Tehran for their annual seminar met with Prime Minister Musavi this morning. The diplomats of the Islamic Republic were accompanied by Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati.

In the course of the meeting, first Velayati made a speech emphasizing that Iranian diplomats must be aware and informed on the country's domestic issues. Then Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi said in a speech:

If realism, which is of great importance in foreign policy, is observed together with principles of the Islamic Revolution, and if the principle of neither East, nor West is stringently observed, then in the long run we will move toward the goals of 11 February 1979, revolution day.

While stressing that the moves of the hypocrites have been defeated, that this minigroup has been crushed and its members arrested, the prime minister referred to the problem of the counterrevolution in Kordestan and said: It is one of the achievements of the Islamic Republic regime that despite the support of foreign powers and European socialists, they are now in a state of extreme distress and have no bases left.

Continuing, the prime minister mentioned some internal issues of recent years: From 21 March 1981 to 29 March 1982 our factories usually worked at 20-30 percent of their nominal capacities and some of them were fully shut, but thanks to the imam's leadership and the people's assistance, without relying on political steps we have been able to come through the foreign currency crisis and have been able to solve the problem of management in the country to a great extent. Currently, too, the degree of awareness, experience, and knowledge of our diplomats is much improved over 3 years ago. We owe all this to a huge move inside the country, of which this seminar is an example.

About the imposed war, the prime minister said: Despite the fact that all forces of world politics have moved against us, we shall continue this war because today our position is more secure and we have better control of our economic and political situation. Naturally, we expect the ambassadors and charges d'affaires of the Islamic Republic to firmly reflect this abroad. Fortunately, reports indicate that this is taking place and that our diplomats are not in a position of emotional weakness [halt-e enfe'ali] now.

In conclusion, emphasizing the importance of presenting the true picture of the Islamic Republic to the people of the world, the prime minister said: The face that we intend to show the world is very important. It must be proved that the Islamic Republic adheres to its undertakings and treaties and will stand firmly on its principles. If we present this picture abroad, we will be able to speak openly and have logical relations. So far you have presented such a picture within your limits.

Musavi on Iran-Iraq War

LD201745 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 20, IRNA — Prime Minister Musavi said to a group of home-coming Iranian ambassadors and charge d'affaires to African and Arab countries here today that regardless of a global complicity against the Islamic Republic, the country would fight on in the war till an eventual victory.

"The Islamic government," said Musavi echoing an earlier avowal by Imam Khomeyni, "will hold out even though the war should continue for another 20 years."

He said this is specially true because the Islamic government is now in a better position and has a better grip of the country's economy, and is a lot more confident in its political stand that it had been earlier on.

Musavi reminded that one goal of the Islamic government is to portray a true picture of the country and its political and social system abroad and that the Islamic Republic should demonstrate to the world nations that it abides by its pledges and its principles.

The prime minister also noted that in spite of an apparent shortage of skilled people at the service of the Islamic government in the previous years, the various tasks of the administration of the state had been successfully tackled by a group of less efficiently skilled but at once more committed people.

He said also that despite being embroiled in an unwanted war Iran's committed workers in their various capacities had successfully checked the inflation rate to its present 11.9 percent.

Musavi also noted that Iran's foreign policies are avowed and undisguised and that the government firmly adheres to a foreign policy dictum equally rejecting alignment with either of the superpowers.

Struggle Against Zionism Stressed

LD201427 Tehran IRNA in English 1400 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 20, IRNA — Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati today reiterated that a "serious struggle" must be launched against the Zionist regime and international Zionism for the sake of Palestine and Muslims in other countries.

The foreign minister also stressed the necessity of expansion of economic ties with African Muslim countries.

Speaking at the inauguration session of a seminar of the Islamic Republic of Iran's ambassadors and charge d'affaires to Arab and African countries, the foreign minister also referred to the ideological and historical ties between the African and Arab nations and the Iranian people.

He then stressed the role of Islam in linking Arab and Islamic countries and said at the present time the issue of Palestine was one of the important issues of Muslims.

The foreign minister also pointed to the problems of the African peoples and the global imperialism's exploitation of the poverty imposed on the African countries as well as the blow inflicted on the culture and economy of this continent by colonialism, and stressed Iran's expansion of its economic relations with the Muslim states in Africa.

Another speaker at the first day of the seminar was Ahmad 'Azizi, chairman of the Majlis Foreign Policy Committee.

He said in his speech that the main axis of U.S. plans in the Middle East was to prevent the defeat of the Iraqi regime in the region.

He also said that the struggle against imperialism must be seriously followed.

Sidon Compared to Tehran During Revolution

LD201223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Excerpts] The victory of the first phase of the Islamic Revolution in Lebanon continues to be the focus of world news. World Muslims are closely following the struggles of the Muslim people in southern Lebanon against the army of the regime occupying Jerusalem and the developments in the liberated city of Sidon.

According to a dispatch by the Central News Unit correspondent from the liberated city of Sidon, the presence of the armed Hezbollahi Muslim young men in the city, the gathering of people in the various corners of the city and their discussions about the victory of the Muslim revolutionaries over the Zionist army have given Sidon an atmosphere akin to that in Tehran on the first days of the victory of the Islamic Revolution.

In his dispatch our correspondent adds: The unity existing in Sidon has now turned into a symbol for the Lebanese people, and, during yesterday's demonstrations by the people of Sidon, Sunni and Sh'ite clergymen clasping hands chanted the slogan of unity.

Deputy Foreign Minister Departs for Sweden

LD201756 Tehran IRNA in English 1445 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 20, IRNA — A 10-man economic delegation, headed by Hoseyn Kazempour Ardabili, deputy minister of foreign affairs in charge of international and economic affairs, left Tehran for Sweden today.

During the delegation's 4-day visit bilateral economic and commercial relations will be discussed.

It is also scheduled to meet and confer with Swedish minister of foreign trade, Mats Helstrom and other Swedish economic officials.

The Iranian delegation's official visit to Sweden is in response to a Swedish delegation's visit to Tehran in the spring of 1983.

The economic delegation will then leave Sweden for Finland.

Montazeri Warns Against External Conspiracies

LD161421 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 16 Feb 85

[Excerpt] On the eve of the establishment of the Islamic Revolution committees, the deputy interior minister in charge of the committees, accompanied by various officials and a large group of families of martyrs of the Islamic Revolution committees, families of the martyrs of Iraq and Najafabad, and a group of employees of the Central Islamic Revolution Prosecutor's Office, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri. During this meeting, referring to the sensitivity of the revolution's present situation and daily conspiracies of the Kremlin, the White House, and other palaces of oppression and despotism against the system of the Islamic Republic and the revolution, his eminence graciously said:

Today, the world of blasphemy and dictatorship helplessly confesses that it takes a serious view of the power of Islam in the world and that it feels quite threatened by the vigilance and awakening of nations spreading in every corner of the world after the victory of the Iranian Islamic Revolution. We should not think that after the blow delivered to the world's colonial powers by Islam they have remained silent and indifferent toward Islam. They are hatching plots every day to destroy our nation, our revolution, and our Islamic system and most of their conspiracies will be against Islam, the clergy, and the revolutionary organs.

His eminence added: The enemies of Islam will try by every means to destroy those organs that originated from the heart of the revolution and have so far played the greatest role in the course of the revolution — that is, such organs as the committees, the Guards Corps, the revolution tribunals, and the rest. By depicting these organs in a poor light, the enemies of the revolution hope that our nation will gradually become dissatisfied with them and turn against the clergy and Islam itself. Therefore, our dear brothers and responsible officials serving in these organs shoulder a very heavy and sensitive burden of responsibility. These brothers should be very careful in their treatment of the people and those individuals who contact these organs for various

reasons. God forbid if the enemies were to make an issue of some un-Islamic behavior in order to spread dissatisfaction among the people.

His eminence emphasized: One of the conspiracies that would assist the enemy and his satanic dreams at this juncture of the revolution is the creation of a series of disruptions, slowdowns, and administrative procrastination which wastes people's time in state organs and offices. Such deeds create dissatisfaction among the people and particularly among the oppressed and deprived strata. By disrupting people's work, the enemy intends to instill dissatisfaction and make the people pessimistic toward the principle of Islam and the clergy. The enemy intends to take the people away from the revolution and our nation should confront this conspiracy decisively and vigilantly.

Concluding his remarks, emphasizing respect for the prestige and honor of the serving and sincere persons, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri said: unfortunately, many of us do not consider the actual effect of our words. We might discredit or destroy the prestige of a minister, a Friday imam, a Majlis deputy, or any other serving and useful individual with one remark, causing this individual to be too ashamed to show his face in public again, making him unable to serve. The Prophet of Islam has said: "The people are thrown to the fire of hell by their evil tongues."

His eminence emphasized: Today, 6 years after the victory of the revolution and establishment of the Islamic Republic, anyone in a responsible position or any organ is expected to behave in a manner that will save the prestige and honor of the revolution and the system, on the one hand, and fully protect the financial, professional, and vital security of the entire nation or the personal prestige of every individual on the other. The life and prestige of every individual in the nation should be highly valued and fully respected. Even when we are, for instance, executing the verdict of Islam with regard to an offender or a condemned person, we have no right to insult him or shout the slightest obscenities against him.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 2,010

LD201650 Tehran IRNA in English 1642 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 20, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces announced in its 2010th communique issued today that more than 15 Iraqis were killed or wounded while seven weaponry positions were set ablaze and two machine guns and one heavy mortar launcher were demolished in Arvand River fronts, in southern Iran during the past 24 hours.

In the region overlooking Khorramshahr, an Iraqi boat patrol unit was forced to flee.

Exchange of heavy gun and artillery fire continued in most fronts being more intense in Maymak in the western battle scenes and Majnun Islands, Kushk and Nahr-Anbar in south.

In the northwestern operational regions of Sardasht, the Islamic combatants silenced the Iraqi fire and inflicted casualties and damages upon the enemy and in Haj 'Umran the engineering activities of the enemy forces were suppressed.

In the western border fronts of Ilam and Bakhtaran all the logistic activities and operations of the Iraqi armoured units and personnel were checked, concluded the Joint Staff Command communique.

Communique Marks Anniversary of Majnun Operation

LD211007 Tehran IRNA in English 0943 GMT 21 Feb 85

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 21, IRNA — In a joint communique Thursday morning, the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces and Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps headquarters marked the first anniversary of Khaibar operation in which Majnun Islands were seized by the Iranian forces.

The communique said that Khaibar operation once again displayed victory of forces of Islam over the army of a despotic regime, adding that the defeated enemy then resorted to vicious means such as deployment of chemical weapons which had the least effect on the will of the Muslim combatants.

The Iraqi regime, the communique added, despite large assistance of the superpowers and their lackeys, had failed in its vicious dreams to defeat the Islamic Revolution and seize Iranian cities.

The Islamic combatants were determined to follow their divine responsibility — to overthrow the Iraqi regime and to root out corruption in the regica, the communique stressed.

It further reiterated that the Islamic Republic Army and Revolution's Guards were prepared to deal fatal blows on the enemy any time it deemed necessary.

Commentary Discusses U.S. Pullout From UNESCO

LD201357 Tehran IRNA in English 1300 GMT 20 Feb 85

[Unattributed IRNA commentary]

[Text] Tehran, Feb. 20, IRNA — Human beings from various races and creeds have always sought to develop and expand relations with each other free from geographical and nationalistic considerations, but only in the 20th century has this ideal found the necessary grounds on which it could develop and take roots. Strong relations based on understanding each other and promoting the peaceful coexistence of all men regardless of their differences and based on the common factors that could be found in them have always been regarded as a lofty ideal for the true believers in the basic goodness of mankind.

This ideal assumed more significance and importance after the atrocities committed by all sides in the course of the Second World War clearly demonstrated how badly things could go astray, and the need for finding a suitable framework in which such relations could fit assumed even more urgency.

The political ruling classes of the victorious countries of the Second World War too were aware of the existence of such an important need felt by people in various corners of the world. In order to keep this humanitarian tendency in a framework upon

which they could excercise some control, these politicians came up with the proposal calling for the setting up of various international world bodies and organizations.

The truth of the matter is that the powerful governments who were the victors of the Second World War decided to encourage the establishment of such organizations with their idealistic undertone in order to exert control on the liberated human potentials and also to prevent any unpredicted events from occuring, events that could hamper the calculations of the big powers.

This was how in 1945, the United Nations Organization had its Charter signed by fifty one of the world's countries and thus was officially born. A year later, on November 4, 1946, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organizaiton, better known as UNESCO, was set up as one of the U.N.'s specialized agencies.

The objective of this new international body was to promote peace and understanding among mankind through education and the spread of knowledge, science and culture. UNESCO hoped to achieve a general degree of international respect and understanding for justice, the rule of law and human rights along with mankind's basic freedoms — things which had been provided for all members of the human society in the Charter of the United Nations regardless of their color, race and creed.

According to its Charter, the UNESCO was also to take action in acquainting various nations with the cultural heritage of one another. Over the years, UNESCO has made impressive strides towards the realization of such humanitarian principles such as trying to find the best and most suitable education system that would prepare children for future international socio-economic cooperation in the world and eradicating ignorance from the globe. The UNESCO has also been very positively active in organizing international cooperation and exchanges for the preservation of mankind's cultural heritage.

It is necessary to note that although the UNESCO's activities must have a cultural undertone, nevertheless, it has not been able to keep itself from the political considerations and games of the big powers. This sorry development came to surface only when the Third World countries started their struggle against the domination of the big powers.

Towards the end of 1960s, it became obvious that America's policy of exploitation of other people by the use of brute force has lost its effectiveness. During this period, the cold war had entered a calm stage of its existence, and American appetite for exerting influence over the world's sensitive geopolitical regions had abated somehow after its abject failure in several instances.

It was under such circumstances that Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, a Senegalese Muslim took over the control of UNESCO with the objective of curtailing the influence of the United States in this organization through appointing Third World countries' representatives to UNESCO's important posts.

The United States which was supplying one-fourth of UNESCO's annual budget, realizing that the winds of change were blowing in the corridors of UNESCO, decided to regain its former position of power through issuing threats. America, relying on the support of its allies in the organization, was hoping to form a power block inside UNESCO which, with American leadership, could weaken UNESCO through pulling the purse string. This is how nothing has been so controversial for UNESCO over the past three decades like the U.S. withdrawal from this organization.

No doubt, the existence of a powerful Third World bloc in UNESCO with the tacit support this bloc receives from the East bloc UNESCO members, along with the emphatic presence of the Soviet Union and its allies and the peculiar position of France which is host to UNESCO's headquarters in Paris will result in conflicting political moves for U.S. allies after the American withdrawal.

The fact that at least 136 countries are members of UNESCO, many of them from the Third World, means that even if the United States sets up a rival organization with the help of such countries like Canada and Britain, it still would not be able to make up for the loss the United States has suffered because of the changes in the UNESCO.

One can be sure that America will concentrate its activities in three directions. To begin with, it will try its best to weaken UNESCO through denying it its membership dues which amounts to one-fourth of UNESCO's budget. The second move most likely will be setting up a rival center vis-a-vis UNESCO in a major U.S. city, and finally, it will try to create division among the ranks of the Third World members of UNESCO. In order to prepare the world public opinion for these actions, America started her slandering campaign to smear UNESCO with charges of it having become politicized.

The position of France is rather peculiar in this situation. Coinciding with the U.S. announcement last year that it is going to leave UNESCO, France started its tacit support for UNESCO, and this was carried to new heights last week when France announced that it was going to grant UNESCO a two-million-dollar assistance. It must be said that the main reason for France not going along with America like America's other allies is that for as long as one could remember, France has portrayed herself as the world's cradle of culture and civilization. In addition to this, the fact that UNESCO headquarters is situated in the French capital has many economic advantages as well as international prestige for France. These mean that France has no choice but to stay away from the United States in this case.

The position of the Third World countries is the most significant one to note. Although Third World states have witnessed the positive and beneficial activities of UNESCO for their own people, nevertheless it can be predicted that some Third World states like Singapore, will say that since UNESCO's political undertone is not in line with their national policies, and since they have economic problems of their own, they will withdraw from UNESCO.

This is exactly the policy of the United States who wants to encourage some members of the Third World block to follow her example and leave UNESCO, thus weakening the Third World block in UNESCO.

The American diplomatic pressures on countries like Japan, which abruptly announced its possible withdrawal from UNESCO at the end of 1985, and also the position of such countries like Britain and Netherlands are nothing but the manifestation of American iron fist policy.

No doubt, the position adopted by the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis the U.S. withdrawal from UNESCO has been an effective response to America's showing of its teeth and claws. This is why it is vitally important that Iran, along with its efforts to explain the advantages to UNESCO of the U.S. withdrawal for the world public opinion, should also initiate a promising move with the allocation of a considerable amount of assistance to UNESCO.

By emphasising that Iran, despite its being involved in a costly imposed war, has decided to provide UNESCO with financial aid, could show the way to the world's richer states like the Arab and OPEC countries. By doing so, Iran could provide the world with a good manifestation of the slogan of "Death to America" at the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

Tudeh-Pakistan Communist Party Issue Statement

TA191641 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian 1730 GMT 18 Feb 85

[Unattributed commentary: "Solidarity and Understanding"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: These days one can hardly find anyone in the world, particularly in our region, who does not recognize Ziaul Haq's antifreedom regime in Pakistan as a tool for suppressing the Pakistani people, and as a means in the hands of America to sabotage and crush progressive movements in the region. Ziaul Haq's bloody and dictatorial regime, like the Islamic regime in our country, has trampled on all the political and social freedoms of the Pakistani people, and has turned Pakistan into a prison for the progressive and freedom-loving people of this land, and into a military springboard for world-devouring America.

By betraying the people of Pakistan and the nations of the region in return for the receipt of arms and Washington's backing, Ziaul Haq has provided U.S. imperialism with the opportunity to establish its largest military bases on Pakistan's soil. As a result of treachery by Ziaul Haq and his clique, present-day Pakistan has been transformed into the center of conspiracy by America and regional reaction against Democratic Afghanistan. It is also common knowledge that Pakistan's regime and Ziaul Haq, the hireling of America and the enforcer of the Pentagon's and the CIA's orders, are the closest friends and allies of the Islamic regime of the ruthless hypocritical mullahs ruling in our homeland. It is not without reason that it has been said: Birds of a feather flock together.

Both our homeland's struggling people and Pakistan's progres sive forces are fighting for a single goal, namely an end to the tyrannical self-centered government and the domination of imperialism, and the establishment of freedom and social justice. Solidarity and understanding between progressive forces of both countries will undoubtedly have a positive effect on the struggle of the peoples of our homeland and Pakistan. In this connection the meeting of delegations from the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Pakistani Communist Party, which took place at the end of January 1985, as well as the results stemming from this meeting, have particular political importance. As Nameh Mardom, central organ of the Iranian Tudeh Party, reported in its issue of 31 January, at this meeting, which was held in an atmosphere of friendship and understanding, the delegations from the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Pakistani Communist Party reached the following conclusions:

1. Iran and Pakistan are two countries in which self-centered regimes are ruling with medieval methods, and in which all rights and liberties stipulated in the Human Rights Declaration approved by the United Nations and signed by both countries are being ruthlessly violated by force and repression.

2. Both parties strongly condemn the arrest, torture, murder, and execution of members of national progressive organizations, as well as other patriots, and demand the immediate unconditional release of political prisoners in both Iran and Pakistan.

3. Both parties strongly condemn the strong anti-people policy pursued by the Iranian and Pakistani regimes against the oppressed peoples of Iran's Baluchestan and Pakistan's Baluchistan.

4. The prolongation of the Iran-Iraq war, which has inflicted material and human losses on both neighboring countries, and which has left millions of dead, maimed or homeless, benefits only international imperialism, headed by U.S. imperialism. We demand a speedy end to the war, and believe that the dispute between Iran and Iraq can be settled at the negotiating table on the basis of the maintenance of the territorial integrity of both countries and the achievement of a just peace. The prolongation of the war has resulted in the consolidation of the U.S. military presence in the region, and has endangered the independence of the region's countries. We demand that all U.S. military bases throughout the entire Middle East and Indian Ocean region be closed down.

5. Both parties strongly condemn the participation of the regimes of Iran and Pakistan, along with aggressive U.S. imperialism and other NATO member countries, in the undeclared war against the DRA, which is against the interests of the peoples of our countries. We believe that all the conditions for achieving a political solution for ending the undeclared war, through negotiations with Iran and Pakistan, are explicitly and realistically reflected in the proposals of the DRA Government. The people of Iran and Pakistan persistently demand the removal of the CIA's bases of subversion in Iran and Pakistan against the neighboring fraternal people of Afghanistan. They request that conditions be prepared for the voluntary return of those Afghans who were led to Iran and Pakistan by force and deception, and who live there now amid dreadful conditions, lacking the most elementary human rights.

6. Both parties condemn the transformation of Pakistan into a U.S. military base, as well as Washington's and Islamabad's plots against India.

7. Both parties express their deep concern about the aggravation of the international situation, initiated by U.S. imperialism and its NATO allies, which is leading the world toward a nuclear war and destruction.

In their joint statement, the delegations of the Iranian Tudeh Party and the Pakistani Communist Party consider the struggle against the policy of a nuclear arms race and its extension to outer space by Washington as the duty of all peace-loving human beings, and they refer to the need to support the proposals by the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for the preservation of peace and human security. In line with this, both parties strongly supported the transformation of the Indian Ocean into a nuclear free zone of peace.

Without a doubt, understanding and solidarity between progressive patriotic parties and organizations in the countries of our region, as well as their joint struggle to achieve common goals, such as ending the domination of imperialism, headed by America, maintaining peace, and establishing a national democratic government, can be effective in achieving the victory of their anti-imperialist struggles.